

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-30 are currently pending. Claims 1-30 have been amended by the present amendment. The changes to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.¹

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 26, and 27 were objected to as containing various informalities; Claims 28 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, regarding questions of definiteness; Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter; Claims 1, 2, 10-12, 20, 21, 23, and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,130,069 to Honma (hereinafter “the ‘069 patent”); Claims 22, 24, 25, and 27-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘069 patent; Claims 3, 5, 6-8, 13, and 15-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘069 patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,785,812 to Botham, Jr., et al. (hereinafter “the ‘812 patent”); Claims 4 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘069 patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,233,618 to Shannon (hereinafter “the ‘618 patent”); Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘069 patent in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0174010 to Rice, III (hereinafter “the ‘010 application”); and Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘069 patent in view of the ‘618 patent and the ‘010 application.

Regarding the objections to Claims 1, 26, and 27, those claims have been amended in the manner suggested by the Office Action. Accordingly, the objections to Claims 1, 26, and 27 are believed to have been overcome.

¹ See, e.g., Figs. 15, 23, 24, and 26 of the present application, and the discussion related thereto.

Regarding the rejections of Claims 28 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Claims 28 and 29 have been amended to depend from Claim 27, rather than Claim 26. Further, it is noted that Claim 28 recites “a registration code of said stored document that said communication unit has received from said user terminal via said network,” not that the stored document was received from the user terminal, as noted in the Office Action.² Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of Claims 28 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, Claim 21 has been amended to be directed to a computer-readable storage medium. Accordingly, the rejection of Claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is believed to have been overcome.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to a file transfer system, comprising:

*a file management server comprising a web page
configured to manage a transfer of files and to allow the files to
be accessed subject to a first password through the web page;*

a file transmitting terminal configured to store a file and
a second password for accessing the file;

a file receiving terminal; and

a mobile terminal,

wherein

said file management server, said file transmitting
terminal, said file receiving terminal, and the mobile terminal
are connected to each other via a network;

said file transmitting terminal is configured, to transmit
to said file management server, the file and the second
password as a part of an authentication condition for accessing
the file, through the web page;

said file management server is configured to store and
to correlatingly manage the file and the second password
transmitted from said file transmitting terminal;

² See Office Action dated June 6, 2008, page 3.

said mobile terminal is configured to transfer an address of a particular file receiving terminal that is permitted to access the file, to said file management server through the web page;

said file management server is configured to store and to correlatingly manage the address of said particular file receiving terminal with the file;

said file receiving terminal is configured to transmit to said file management server a request for transferring the file;
and

in response to the request transmitted by said file receiving terminal, if an address of said file receiving terminal and the address of the particular file receiving terminal match, and if the second password is satisfied, said file management server is configured to transfer the file to said file receiving terminal.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), the '069 patent is directed to an image forming system including an image forming apparatus that communicates with other apparatuses for data exchange.³ In particular, the '069 patent discusses that, in response to pressing of an other device key 805, on a control panel 500 of the image-forming apparatus 1000, a CPU 323 searches for other image-forming apparatuses which can exchange data with the image-forming apparatus 1000, and displays the search results on a list on the screen. The '069 patent discusses that the user, who has pressed the other device key 805, selects an image-forming apparatus having a personal box storing a desired job, referencing the screen shown in Fig. 15, looks into the personal box of the selected apparatus, selects desired original document image data, transfers the original document image data from the image-forming apparatus selected in Fig. 15 to the user's own apparatus 1000 through the network, and prints out the original document image data on the user's own apparatus 1000.⁴

However, it is respectfully submitted that the '069 patent fails to disclose a file management server comprising a web page configured to manage a transfer of files and to

³ See '069 patent, column 1, lines 9-11.

⁴ Id. at column 17, lines 13-28.

allow the files to be accessed subject to a first password through the web page. Rather, the '069 patent simply discusses that information in a personal box managed in another remote digital copying apparatus is displayed by communicating with a network interface 7 of the other remote digital copying apparatus through the TCP/IP protocol.⁵ The '069 patent does not disclose that the other digital copying apparatus comprises **a web page**, as defined in Claim 1.

Further, the '069 patent fails to disclose that, in response to the request transmitted by said file receiving terminal, if an address of said file receiving terminal and the address of the particular file receiving terminal match, and if the second password is satisfied, said file management server is configured to transfer the file to said file receiving terminal. Rather, the '069 patent simply discusses that a password input screen 816 appears when any button corresponding to a personal box storing desired print data, from among box numbers 802-804, is pressed on the personal box main screen 801, shown in Fig. 12.⁶ The '069 patent discusses that when a password input on the screen shown in Fig. 13 is valid, the information about the content of the personal box is listed in a table on the control panel 500 as shown in Fig. 14 to prompt the user to select a desired document.⁷ The '069 patent does not disclose transferring the desired document ***if an address of said file receiving terminal and the address of the particular file receiving terminal match, and if the second password is satisfied***, as defined in Claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably defines over the '069 patent.

Amended Claim 11 recites, in part,

a display unit configured to display a web page for
transmitting files; [and]

a file transferring unit configured to, in response to a
request for transferring said file stored in said first storage unit

⁵ See '069 patent, column 7, lines 33-38.

⁶ Id. at column 15, lines 38-60; column 20, lines 59-65; and Fig. 17.

⁷ Id. at column 21, lines 19-23.

from said file receiving terminal, transfer said file to said file receiving terminal if an address of said file receiving terminal and the address of the particular file receiving terminal match, and if the second password is satisfied.

As noted above, the '069 patent fails to disclose the file management server defined in Claim 1. Thus, the '069 patent fails to disclose the file management server recited in Claim 11. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 11 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably defines over the '069 patent.

Amended Claims 20 and 21 recite, in part,

displaying a web page configured to transfer and to receive files; [and]

in response to the request, transmitting said file to said file receiving terminal if an address of said file receiving terminal and the address of the particular file receiving terminal match, and if the second password is satisfied.

As noted above, the '069 patent fails to disclose the file management server recited in Claim 1. Thus, the '069 patent fails to disclose the file transfer method defined in Claims 20 and 21, respectively. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 20 and 21 patentably define over the '069 patent.

Amended Claim 22 recites, in part,

a stored document management server comprising a web page configured to manage a transfer of stored documents and to allow the stored documents to be accessed subject to a first password through the web page; [and]

in response to the request transmitted by the second image forming apparatus, if an address of said second image forming apparatus and the address of the particular image forming apparatus match, and if the second password is satisfied, said stored document management server is configured to transfer the stored document to said second image forming apparatus.

As noted above, the '069 patent fails to disclose the file management server recited in Claim 1. Thus, the '069 patent fails to disclose the stored document management server

defined in Claim 22. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 22 patentably defines over the '069 patent.

Amended Claim 23 recites, in part,

a display unit configured to display a web page for transmitting stored documents; [and]

a stored document transferring unit configured to, in response to a request for transferring said stored document stored in said first storage unit from said second image forming apparatus, transfer said stored document to said second image forming apparatus if an address of said second image forming apparatus and the address of the particular image forming apparatus match, and if the second password is satisfied.

As noted above, the '069 patent fails to disclose the file management server recited in Claim 1. Thus, the '069 patent fails to disclose the stored document management server defined in Claim 23. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 23 patentably defines over the '069 patent.

Amended Claim 24 is directed to an image forming system, comprising:

a first image forming apparatus configured to manage a transfer of stored documents and to allow the stored documents to be accessed subject to a first password, and to store a stored document and a second password for accessing the stored document;

a user terminal; and

a second image forming apparatus;

wherein

said first image forming apparatus, said user terminal, and said second image forming apparatus are connected to each other via a network;

in response to a request from said user terminal, said first image forming apparatus is configured to, if the second password is satisfied, transmit said stored document and said second password as a part of an authorization condition for accessing the stored document to said second image forming apparatus; and

said second image forming apparatus is configured to store said stored document and said second password relating to each other and, if said second password is satisfied, to print said stored document.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as noted above, the '069 patent is directed to an image forming system including an image forming apparatus that communicates with other apparatuses for data exchange.⁸ However, it is respectfully submitted that the '069 patent fails to disclose that, in response to a request from said user terminal, said first image forming apparatus is configured to, if the second password is satisfied, transmit said stored document and said second password as a part of an authorization condition for accessing the stored document to said second image forming apparatus;. Rather, the '069 patent discusses that a password input screen 816 appears when any button corresponding to a personal box storing desired print data, from among the box numbers 802-804, is pressed on a personal box main screen 801 shown in Fig. 12.⁹ The '069 patent discusses that after the password is entered, a user may **transfer application document data** from a computer to his own personal box, or a personal box of another person.¹⁰ The '069 patent does not disclose transmitting *said second password as a part of an authorization condition for accessing the stored document to said second image forming apparatus, if the second password is satisfied*, as defined in Claim 24.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that the '069 patent fails to disclose that said second image forming apparatus is configured to store said stored document and said second password relating to each other and, if said second password is satisfied, to print said stored document. Rather, as noted above, the '069 patent discusses that a user may transmit a PDL document created by the user himself or herself to a personal box of another person, who may

⁸ See '069 patent, column 1, lines 9-11.

⁹ Id. at column 15, lines 40-43.

¹⁰ Id. at column 15, line 61 to column 16, line 8.

then print the PDL document **entering the other person's own password**.¹¹ The '069 patent does not disclose that the PDL document is printed *if said second password is satisfied*, as defined in Claim 24.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 24 patentably defines over the '069 patent.

Amended Claim 25 recites, in part,

in response to a request from said user terminal, said first image forming apparatus is configured to, if said second password is satisfied, transmit said stored document and said second password as part of an authorization condition to said stored document management server.

As noted above, the '069 patent fails to disclose the first image forming apparatus recited in Claim 1. Thus, the '069 patent fails to disclose the first image forming apparatus recited in Claim 25. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 25 patentably defines over the '069 patent.

Amended Claim 26 recites, in part,

a communication unit configured to exchange data via said network, and, subject to a first password, to receive a stored document and a second password from said other image forming apparatus; [and]

an image forming unit configured to, in response to reception of a request for printing said stored document, if the second password is satisfied, print said stored document.

As noted above, the '069 patent fails to disclose the second image forming apparatus recited in Claim 24. Thus, the '069 patent fails to disclose the image forming apparatus defined in Claim 26. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 26 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably defines over the '069 patent.

Amended Claim 30 recites, in part,

a communication unit configured to exchange data via said network, and, subject to a first password, to transmit a

¹¹ See '069 patent, column 16, lines 3-8.

stored document and a second password to the stored document management server; [and]

said communication unit is configured to, in response to reception of a request for transmitting said stored document from said user terminal, if the second password is satisfied, transmit said stored document and said second password to said stored document management server.

As noted above, the '069 patent fails to disclose the first image forming apparatus recited in Claim 24. Thus, the '069 patent fails to disclose the image forming apparatus defined in Claim 30. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 30 patentably defines over the '069 patent.

Regarding the rejections of dependent Claims 3, 5, 6-8, 13, and 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), it is respectfully submitted that the '812 patent fails to remedy the deficiencies of the '069 patent, as discussed above. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 3, 5, 6-8, 13, and 15-18 patentably define over any proper combination of the '069 and '812 patents.

Regarding the rejections of dependent Claims 4 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), it is respectfully submitted that the '618 patent fails to remedy the deficiencies of the '069 patent, as discussed above. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 4 and 14 patentably define over any proper combination of the '069 and '618 patents.

Regarding the rejection of dependent Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), it is respectfully submitted that the '010 application fails to remedy the deficiencies of the '069 patent, as discussed above. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that dependent Claim 9 patentably defines over any proper combination of the '069 patent and the '010 application.

Regarding the rejection of dependent Claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), it is respectfully submitted that the '618 patent and the '010 application fail to remedy the deficiencies of the '069 patent, as discussed above. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted

that dependent Claim 19 patentably defines over any proper combination of the '069 patent, the '618 patent, and the '010 application.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 11, 20, 21-26, and 30 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over any proper combination of the '069 patent, the '812 patent, the '618 patent, and the '010 application.

Consequently, in view of the present amendments and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

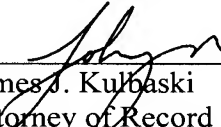
Respectfully submitted,

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